

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 00819 161916Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 FEA-01 INT-05 OES-03 /074 W

----- 003547

R 161900Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8205

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 00819

E.O. 11652: XGDS-L

TAGS: PFOR. UI

SUBJECT: LATEST ROUND IN FALKLAND ISLANDS CONTROVERSY

1. THE BRITISH ARE GENERALLY NONPLUSSED BY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA CULMINATING IN THE DEMAND THIS WEEK THAT THEIR AMBASSADOR, DERICK ASHE, BE RECALLED. ASHE IN FACT HAD BEEN SENT TO BUENOS AIRES SPECIFICALLY TO EXPAND THE UK-ARGENTINE DIALOGUE ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, AND HIS INITIAL EFFORTS HAD BEEN GRATIFYING.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE SHACKLETON COMMISSION, TO STANLEY, WHICH PRECIPITATED THE CURRENT DISPUTE, HAD BEEN TO SPIKE RATHER THAN STIMULATE FALKLANDERS' DREAMS OF ECONOMIC GRANDEUR. CALLAGHAN EXPLAINED THE INTENTION OF THE COMMISSION TO FOREIGN MINISTER CASTEX WHEN THEY MET IN PARIS DURING THE DECEMBER CIEC CONFERENCE. CASTEX ASKED IF ONE OR TWO ARGENTINIANS MIGHT BE ATTACHED TO THE COMMISSION TO WHICH HMG, IN KEEPING WITH ITS POLICY, READILY AGREED. TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH, THE ARGENTINIANS APPARENTLY UPPED THEIR DEMANDS ASKING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVE BE NAMED DEPUTY OF THE COMMISSION. HMG POLITELY DECLINED. AFTER SOME DELAY, CASTEX RESPONDED BY ASKING THAT ASHE BE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 00819 161916Z

RECALLED.

3. THE FCO ATTRIBUTED THE INCIDENT TO THE QUIXOTIC PERSONALITY OF CASTEX AND THE GENERAL DISARRAY WITHIN THE ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT. THE DISPUTE, ALTHOUGH A SETBACK, WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON BRITAIN'S FALKLANDS POLICY OF GRADUALLY BUILDING DIRECT FALKLANDS-ARGENTINA COOPERATION. THE GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH, WHICH ESENTIALLY GUARANTEES SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE ISLANDERS, IS WHOLLY SUPPORTED IN PARLIAMENT. LIBERAL LEADER, JEREMY THORPE, ON HEARING THE NEWS OF ARGENTINA'S LATEST TURN OF THE SCREW, SPOKE FOR MOST OF HIS PARLIAMENTARIAN COLLEAGUES WHEN HE DECLARED THAT BRITISH CITIZENS HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN BRITISH IF THEY WISH TO.

4. COMMENT: HMG VIEWS THE ASHE INCIDENT AS ANOTHER CHAPTER HALF-WAY THROUGH A LONG BOOK.

SPIERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SELF DETERMINATION, FALKLAND ISLANDS, ISLAND CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON00819
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760018-0583
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760150/aaaabsiw.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LATEST ROUND IN FALKLAND ISLANDS CONTROVERSY
TAGS: PFOR, FA, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006